

St. John's Anglican Church, St. Raphaël

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A congregation of the Church of England's
Diocese in Europe and a member of the
World-Wide Anglican Communion.

Une congrégation de L'Église d'Angleterre dans le
Diocèse d'Europe et un membre de la
Communion Anglicane Mondiale.

St. John's is an inclusive congregation and
welcomes everyone to worship with us.

Notre Église est une congrégation inclusive, et tout
le monde est bienvenu.

**A VERY WARM
WELCOME TO
OUR SERVICE
THIS MORNING**

Matthew 13:44

**Sunday 26th July
2026
Eighth Sunday after
Trinity**

Chaplain (Locum)

Warden

Music Director & Lay-Chair

Secretary

Congregational Worship Leader

Canon Douglas **Ousley**

Bérengère **Ross**

Shirley **Rowson**

Peter **Owen**

Alastair **Ross**

04 94 76 17 70

06 60 71 93 54

07 86 05 81 12

04 94 76 17 70

THE PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy goes and sells all he has and buys that field.” — MATTHEW 13:44

A TREASURE WORTH GIVING EVERYTHING

Jesus told this parable to show the incomparable value of the Kingdom of God.

THE STORY AT A GLANCE

- 1 A MAN**
A man discovers treasure hidden in a field.
- 2 A TREASURE**
He realizes its great value beyond measure.
- 3 HE HIDES IT**
In his joy, he hides it again to keep it safe.
- 4 HE SELLS ALL**
He sells everything he owns without hesitation.
- 5 HE BUYS THE FIELD**
He buys that field and gains the treasure.

WHAT JESUS IS TEACHING

- THE KINGDOM IS PRICELESS**
It is of supreme value—greater than everything else in life.
- TRUE JOY COMES FROM FINDING HIM**
The man's joy shows the delight of discovering God's Kingdom.
- REQUIRES TOTAL COMMITMENT**
Following Jesus may require letting go of everything else.
- WORTH EVERY SACRIFICE**
The reward of knowing and belonging to the Kingdom is eternal life.

LESSONS FOR US TODAY

- SEEK GOD ABOVE ALL**
Make God and His Kingdom your highest priority.
- VALUE WHAT LASTS FOREVER**
This world is temporary, but God's Kingdom is eternal.
- BE WILLING TO LET GO**
Sometimes, God asks us to surrender things that hold us back.
- LIVE WITH ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE**
Invest in what matters most—God's Kingdom and His righteousness.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- DISCOVER**
Seek and find the treasure of God's truth.
- DELIGHT**
Rejoice in the unmatched joy of knowing Jesus.
- DILIGENCE**
Protect and pursue your spiritual treasure.
- DEVOTION**
Give your all for the Kingdom of God.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” — MATTHEW 6:21

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS THE GREATEST TREASURE.

COMMUNION SERVICE

NOTICES & MUSICAL PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN # 66 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

WELCOME & PRAYER OF PREPARATION

CONFESSION, KYRIE, ABSOLUTION, GLORIA

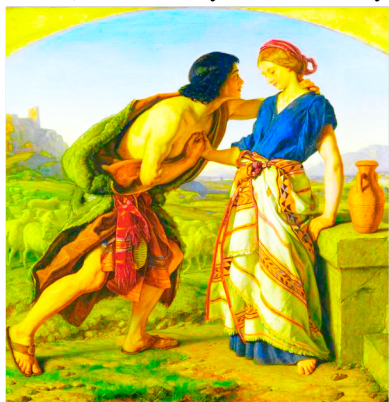
COLLECT PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

(29:15-28)

Then Laban said to Jacob, ‘Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?’ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. **Jacob loved Rachel**; so he said, ‘I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.’ Laban said, ‘It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.’ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, ‘Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.’ So Laban gathered



together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, ‘What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?’ Laban said, ‘This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me for another seven years.’ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Jacob and Rachel

Reader: This is the word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

A READING FROM ST. PAUL’S LETTER TO THE ROMANS

(8:26-39)

Likewise the **Spirit** helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the **Spirit**, because the **Spirit** intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

God’s thoughts belong to the world of spirit, man’s to the world of intellect, and while the spirit can embrace intellect, the human intellect can never comprehend spirit

A.W.TOZER (1897 - 1963)

The spirit is an inward flame; a lamp the world blows upon, but never puts out.

Margot ASQUITH (1864 -1945)

GOSPEL HYMN # 418 King of Kings, majesty

Gospel Reader: The Lord be with you **All: And also with you**

Gospel Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew

All: Glory to you, O Lord

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW

(13:31-33, 44-52)

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’ He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’ ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that

he had and bought it. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

Gospel Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON “Treasure Hunt”

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

THE NICENE CREED followed by PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY HYMN # 687 Take my life, and let it be

The service continues on Page 12 of the Service Booklet

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FINAL BLESSING

FINAL HYMN # 248 God of grace and God of glory

SENDING OUT & POSTLUDE

The service is followed by coffee

NOTICES

**Service for Sunday 2nd August : (Ninth Sunday after Trinity)
Communion with Canon Douglas OUSLEY
Genesis 32:22-31 ; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21**

Please take this Pew Sheet with you **or** throw it in the bin as you leave. Do not leave it in your place. Thank you.